

The Manatee Zone

Connecting students, parents, and teachers.

Courtesy of the Meadowbrook PTA.

Volume 7, Issue 1

September 2018



Principal's Corner:

Dear Parents,

We are off to a great start at Meadowbrook! Thank you so much for bringing your children to school on time and ready to learn. We are so fortunate to have teachers on board who truly love their jobs. This, combined with our traditionally strong parent support, guarantees a year of learning for your child.

We love our parent volunteers and see several of you frequently, but we understand that many of you have work schedules that don't permit us to see you as often. To make sure we have communication lines open, please be sure to update your contact information with the school. Also, please know that we are available throughout the year if you ever have a need for a conference – you do not have to wait for an advertised conference time.

As the school year progresses and we fall into our regular arrival and dismissal pattern, we typically see that parking and arrival to school becomes less congested. Thanks so much for your patience while we get there.

Sincerely,

Brad Burklew, Principal



September:

9/3 No School

9/4 Sonny's BBQ Spirit Night

9/7 Health Screening 7:45am- Noon

9/14 Skate Station Night 5:30pm- 8:00pm

9/17- 9/21 Book Fair

9/20 Family Night 5:30pm-7:30pm

9/26 Dad's Take Your Child to School Day

If you'd like a printable copy of the September calendar [click here!](#)



Greetings Meadowbrook Families!

On behalf of the PTA Board, I want to welcome both our new and returning students this year as well as our faculty and staff! It is so exciting to see the halls buzzing with enthusiasm as we start off this school year.

The PTA board has already been working over the summer to plan some exciting events and programs for our students and families, and we hope to see you all there! Keep your eye out for communication through our PTA bulletin board in the main hallway, email, Facebook and our monthly newsletter.

We hope you will consider taking the time to join our Meadowbrook PTA and show your support for our school. While internet memes circulate around indicating that PTA stands for "Parents to Avoid", we hope that you will feel just the opposite about our group here at Meadowbrook! We welcome new faces and have opportunities for parents, grandparents and other friends of Meadowbrook to get involved to support our children and teachers so that we can have the best year ever! Your membership fee of **\$6** per person helps us to support the mission of National PTA as well as to provide school-specific programming to meet the needs of our own children and grandchildren. Membership **does not require any volunteer commitment** but simply shows your support to the PTA's efforts to be a voice for all children. However, if you are looking for volunteer opportunities, our PTA board you can help you find the perfect fit!

We look forward to seeing you all at our first General PTA meeting at Open House on August 30th. Come visit us and hear about how we kicked off the year by providing \$30,000 to Meadowbrook for resources and curriculum enhancements that will support all of our students. This is possible only through the support of our families, teachers and staff. We are counting on you!

Warm Regards,
Kim Vaughn, PTA President

New T-shirt Styles for 2018!



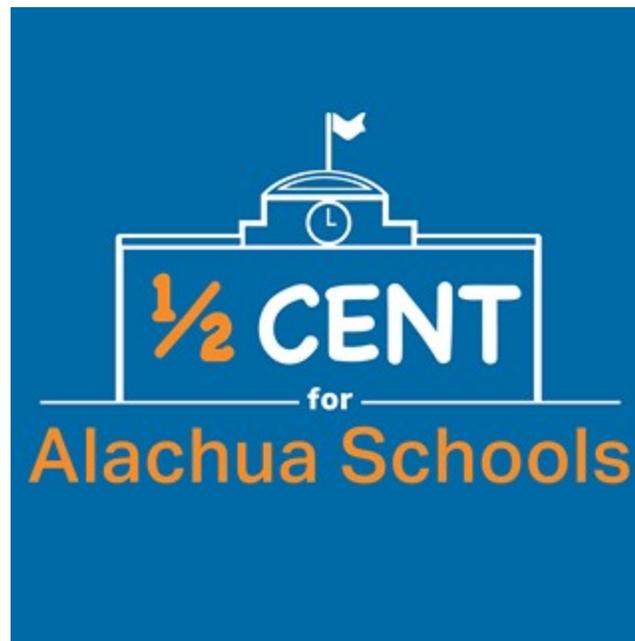


Get your new Meadowbrook spirit wear for only **\$15!** Deadline for ordering is September 7th and you can do so through the front office.



September 4th

Take the night off from cooking and enjoy some BBQ with your family. Whether you dine in, pick-up, or drive through Sonny's will give a portion back to Meadowbrook! Look for the flyer coming home with your student and don't forget to take it with you.



In November, Alachua County voters will have a unique opportunity to improve the lives of a generation of children. The half-cent for schools is a ballot initiative that will raise approximately \$20 million per year for classrooms, technology, and school safety improvements. This initiative came out of our Alachua County School Board's recognition of the deteriorating facilities within our local schools and their ability to keep up with simple maintenance.

Every school will see the benefit of the half-cent, with a major project planned in every school in the first five years. Decisions regarding how to spend the money will be open to the public and overseen by an independent citizens oversight committee. This referendum is a big ask of our community - a half-cent sales tax for 12 years. It's estimated that the sales tax will cost the average Alachua County household about \$60 a year. With it, we will not only take care of maintaining today, but will be able to create the Alachua County public schools of the future - all the way across our district. This referendum will touch EVERY student in Alachua County for generations to come.

[Read more about the Half-Cent for Schools Preliminary School Facility Needs List](#)

[Subscribe to the Alachua County Council of PTA's e-newsletter](#) to stay informed about this and other local and state advocacy initiatives to benefit Alachua County children.

THE FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
INVITES YOU TO PARTICIPATE IN

DADS
DEDICATED ACHIEVEMENT DEMONSTRATES SUCCESS

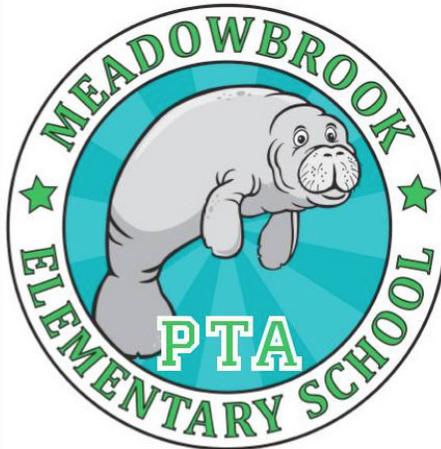
TAKE YOUR CHILD TO
SCHOOL DAY **9.26.18**

ALL FATHER FIGURES ARE WELCOME,
INCLUDING STEPFATHERS, GRANDFATHERS, UNCLES, BROTHERS,
FOSTER FATHERS AND OTHER SIGNIFICANT MALE ROLE MODELS.

CONTACT YOUR LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
#FLDADSATSCHOOL18

 FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF
EDUCATION
fldoe.org

This is an event for any male role model in your child's life, and certainly moms are welcome too!



We would like to invite all of our families at Meadowbrook to [join the PTA](#). Your membership and support is very important to us. With the help of our membership last year, the PTA was able to purchase wonderful things for our school and school community:

- New outdoor supplies and equipment for outside play and Physical Education classes.
- Added computer technology for classrooms.
- A gift card for all full-time teachers.
- Art supplies.
- Atomic clocks for every classroom.
- Portable sound system.
- Reflex Math subscription.
- Media Center Projector.
- Cafeteria projector.
- Sound system repair in cafeteria.
- Portable piano and bench.

All Meadowbrook PTA members receive important PTA email updates and announcements. PTA members receive special offers and discounts from corporate supporters of National PTA: Discounts of more than 50% off at LEGOLAND, coupons to Rapids Water Park as well as discounts from brand names like AARP, Boxed, Lifetouch, Squadlocker, Good Housekeeping, Hertz, LifeLock, MetLife, Mountain America Credit Union, Quicken Loans, TreeRing and Sylvan just to name a few. And here you can see [10 more reasons](#) to join PTA!



The PTA is very proud to serve the students, families, teachers and staff at Meadowbrook. We hope you will join our organization. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact us at MeadowbrookElemPTA@gmail.com.

Morning Mile is a great way for your student to start their day in an active and fun way walking or running with their friends! Morning Mile takes place on the track from 7:00- 7:30 daily. All students and parents are welcome! Students earn a necklace and charm after they've completed their first 5 miles, plus a charm for each additional 5 miles.





Want to go on a field trip with your student? Or help out our fantastic teachers in the classroom? Please fill out this volunteer application! A new one is required each school year.

<https://apps.raptortech.com/Apply/MTU3OmVuLVVT>

Opportunities:

Health Screenings:

September 7th are Health Screenings at school. Nurse Lopez would love any and all volunteer help, no medical experience required!

To sign up [click here](#) or

Contact Nurse Lopez: Phone: 352-333-2828

Carnival Committee Volunteers Needed:

Join us to get ready for the Fall Carnival! We have many opportunities for you to participate and will help you find something that meets your interest and availability.

Come hear what Carnival is all about! Email Kim Vaughn, kkvaughn217@gmail.com to be included on upcoming committee meetings.

Thank you!

The Hospitality Committee would like to say a big thank you to Jim Foran for all of his help over the summer painting the teachers lounge!



September 14th 5:30pm- 8:00pm

Grab your friends and go have a fun night of skating at Skate Station! Get your bands ahead of time from the PTA table in the main hallway. Have a fun family night and also help support Meadowbrook.



September is Public Schools Awareness Month

Public schools have an important and community-driven mission: to provide a high quality education for all children! The coalition of the Alachua County Council of PTA's, the League of Women Voters, the Alachua County Education Foundation and the UF College of Education Council invites you to join us in celebrating the role public schools play in our community this month.

Events and activities will take place during the month, including:

- September 11th, 6:30 pm - Movie Screening: Backpack Full of Cash, highlighting the impact of privatization on our public school system.
- September 22nd: 9:30 am – Forum: Making Our Schools Everyone's Priority, informing the community on the state of our school facilities and safety, and moving forwarding with plans for equity and mental health in our district.

For more information, visit: <https://www.acpublicschoolsawareness.org/>



Fall Carnival is coming, save the date!!!

Thursday, October 18th, 4-7PM

Bring the whole family to enjoy games, bounce houses, face painting, great food and much more! Stay tuned for more info coming soon....

We NEED you!

Do you own a business or work for a company that would support our

students?

We would love to work with you on a business sponsorship for our Fall Carnival.

There are many different levels of support and we would love to discuss opportunities with you! This is a great way to advertise your business to the entire Meadowbrook community.

Please let us you know if you would like more information.

Contact: Kim Vaughn, kkvaughn217@gmail.com.



Be on the look out for Fall Fundraiser information coming soon!

Principal

Brad Burklew

Assistant Principal

John Green II

President

Kim Vaughn

Vice President

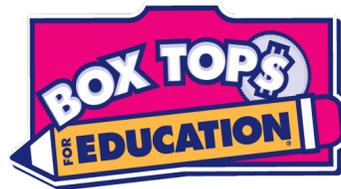
Whitney Tabb

Secretary

Maribeth Goslinga

Treasurer

Jennifer Sparks



Please support Meadowbrook and collect Box Tops for Education. Funds go towards the purchase of school resources and supplies. Please

Ways & Means

Melissa Eberst

Membership

Wendy Eckhardt

Advocacy

Megan Hendricks

Programming

Kio Fuller

Publicity

Bree Kerwin

Hospitality

Lina Burklew

Denise Weaver

Spirit Wear

Sheila Traynor

Newsletter

Ashley Tormes

Elf Workshop Chairman

Rosie Foran

Teacher Representatives

Emily Bugg

Melissa Horne

Angel James

Volunteer Coordinator

Aimee Sutherland

**To contact a PTA officer,
please direct**

correspondence to

MeadowbrookElemPTA@gmail.com

send them in to your child's
teacher on a regular basis.
Each one makes a difference.

**Fall Deadline is
October 15th**



Find us on Facebook

See what's happening around
Meadowbrook. Stay connected and
get the latest updates on school
news and events.

[Click Here!](#)

**Meadowbrook Elementary
School**

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